

LOUISIANA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Louisiana Workforce Commission News Update

Mobile units to assist with Unemployment Insurance claims, job needs

BATON ROUGE -The Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) has activated four mobile units in south Louisiana to take new Unemployment Insurance claims and provide job search and placement services. The units are equipped with banks of computers connected by satellite to the LWC's computer systems.

Today, mobile units are located in:

Baton Rouge - 1991 Wooddale Blvd.

Houma - 807 Barrow St.

Gonzales - 1721 South Burnside Ave.

Gretna on the West Bank - 1900 Lafayette St.

The units will remain at these locations as long as the need for mobile services exists in these areas. It is anticipated that as electricity and Internet connections are restored in these areas, the mobile units will move to areas where these services are still unavailable.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is available to Louisiana residents in the following areas affected by Hurricane Gustav: Acadia, Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermilion, Vernon, West Baton Rouge and West.

The deadline for people in these 36 parishes to file DUA applications is Oct. 6, 2008. DUA is available for weeks of unemployment beginning Sept. 7, 2008, through March 7, 2009, as long as the claimant's unemployment continues to be a result of the disaster.

Those filing new DUA claims can also call 1-866-783-5567. The call center is available from 6 a.m. - 10 p.m., seven days a week.

Business and Career Solution Centers in the disaster area that have electricity and Internet service will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week to assist with claims and other services for job seekers and businesses. Centers in other parts of the state will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For the latest information on the recovery from Hurricane Gustav, visit emergency.louisiana.gov or call the state's emergency hotline at 1-866-288-2484 to listen to a recorded message with the most up-to-date information.